

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A bone plate, comprising:
 - a) a head portion;
 - b) an elongated lower portion extending from the head portion ~~a longitudinal axis~~, wherein the bone plate comprising the head portion and the elongated lower portion comprises a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side; with
 - c) a first complex aperture located in the elongated lower portion, the first complex aperture comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of the first complex aperture extend along a first longitudinal axis and comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shape at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes;
 - d) ~~at least two~~ a second complex apertures aperture located in the head portion, ~~each~~ the second complex aperture comprised of ~~at least one set of~~ two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of the second complex aperture extend along a second longitudinal axis and comprise a compression

ramp extending from an oval shaped opening at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes; and

- e) wherein the first and second longitudinal axes of the respective first and second complex apertures are angled with respect to each other ~~oriented along the longitudinal axis for securing the plate to a bone, such offset defining a necked down portion between the overlapping holes, each overlapping hole having threaded surfaces formed therein adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw.~~

2. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The bone plate of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second complex apertures includes a bevel at an ~~the apertures positioned so as to be on a side of the point of osteotomy when applied to bone include wide bevels on a far end of the aperture spaced from the hourglass shape of the lower threaded portion thereof away from the osteotomy site.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The bone plate of claim 1 adapted to receive at least one locking bone peg having a threaded head which locks with the threads of a corresponding overlapping hole of one of the complex apertures, thereby better ensuring rigid fixing of a fracture when using additional pegs having a body without threads.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The bone plate of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second complex apertures has a countersink.

6. (Previously Presented) The bone plate of claim 18 wherein the predetermined angle is approximately 25 degrees.

7. (Currently Amended) A bone plate suitable for use in osteotomy, the bone plate comprising:

- ~~(a) a head portion; a least two axes on which bone screw receiving holes are located including a longitudinal axis and an axis substantially angled therefrom, and~~
- ~~(b) an elongated lower portion extending from the head portion, wherein the bone plate comprising the head portion and the elongated lower portion comprises a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side; with~~
- c) a first complex aperture located in the elongated lower portion, the first complex aperture comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of the first complex aperture extend along a first longitudinal axis and comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shape at the top side of the

- plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes;
- d) at least two a second complex apertures aperture located in the head portion, each the second complex aperture comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of the second complex aperture extend along a second longitudinal axis and comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shaped opening at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes;
- e) wherein the first and second longitudinal axes of the respective first and second complex apertures are angled with respect to each other; and
- f) a third aperture located in the head portion with the first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture

and the second longitudinal axis of the second complex aperture intersecting at a center point of the third aperture ~~oriented along the longitudinal axis for securing the plate to a bone, such offset defining a necked down portion between the overlapping holes, each overlapping hole having threaded surfaces formed therein adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw.~~

8. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The bone plate of claim 7 wherein the first and second complex apertures ~~positioned so as to be on a side of the point of osteotomy when applied to bone include wide bevels on a far at least one bevel at an end of their respective oval shaped openings, the bevel leading into the hourglass shape of the lower threaded portion thereof and near end of the apertures with respect to the osteotomy site.~~

9. (Previously Presented) The bone plate of claim 7 adapted to receive at least one locking bone peg having an unthreaded body and threaded head which locks with threads of a corresponding threaded aperture of the bone plate, thereby better ensuring rigid fixing of a fracture.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The bone plate of claim 7 wherein a distance between the ~~sets of~~ overlapping holes of the first and second complex apertures is defined to optimize either closing or opening of wedge femoral osteotomies.

12. (Previously Presented) The bone plate of claim 11 wherein the distance is approximately 15 mm.

13. (Previously Presented) The bone plate of claim 12 wherein a distal end of the bone plate forms a natural curve corresponding to the shape of a distal femur in order to minimize the potential of plate overhang.

14. (Currently Amended) An orthopedic kit, including:

a) a bone plate suitable for use in osteotomy, the bone plate comprising:

i) a head portion;

ii) an elongated lower portion extending from the head portion having a longitudinal axis, wherein the bone plate comprising the head portion and the elongated lower portion comprises a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side; with

iii) a first complex aperture located in the elongated lower portion, the first complex aperture comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of the first complex aperture extend along a first longitudinal axis and comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shape at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes;

- iv) ~~at least two~~ a second complex apertures aperture
located in the head portion, each the second
complex aperture comprised of at least one set of
two overlapping holes having an offset of a given
distance between centers thereof, wherein the two
overlapping holes of the second complex aperture
extend along a second longitudinal axis and
comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval
shaped opening at the top side of the plate
downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate
thickness to a threaded lower portion having an
hourglass shape extending from where the upper
portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom
side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of
the overlapping holes meeting each other at an
overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower
portion being adapted to lock with threads of a
corresponding bone screw in either one or the
other of the overlapping holes; and
- v) wherein the first and second longitudinal axes of
the respective first and second complex apertures
are angled with respect to each other orientated
~~along the longitudinal axis for securing the plate~~
~~to a bone, such offset defining a necked down~~
~~portion between the overlapping holes, each~~
~~overlapping hole having threaded surfaces, the~~
~~holes communicating through the plate from the top~~
~~to the bottom side, and wherein, when applied to a~~
~~bone, one complex aperture is located on either~~
~~side of an osteotomy site; and~~
- b) at least one bone screw engageable with the bone plate.

15. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 14 further comprising a drill guide having a main drill guide surface and opposite end portions, one end portion of which is securely engageable with the threaded surface of a hole in the bone plate so as to securely hold the drill guide in a desired orientation with respect to the bone plate for stabilizing a drill used in an orthopedic procedure.

16. (Currently Amended) The kit of claim 14 wherein ~~when the bone plate is applied to a bone, at least one complex aperture is located on opposite sides of the osteotomy site and a~~ the second longitudinal axis of the second ~~third~~ complex aperture is aligned at approximately 60 degrees with the first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture axis.

17. (Currently Amended) The bone plate of claim 1 wherein when applied to a bone, at least one complex aperture is positionable ~~located~~ on opposite sides of an osteotomy site.

18. (Previously Presented) The bone plate of claim 5 wherein the countersink is axially offset from an orientation perpendicular to the top surface by a predetermined angle.

19. (New) The bone plate of claim 1 wherein the second longitudinal axis of the second complex aperture is angled about 60 degrees with respect to the first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture.

20. (New) The bone plate of claim 1 wherein a third complex aperture is located in the head portion, the third complex aperture comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, and wherein the two overlapping holes of the third complex aperture extend along a third longitudinal axis and comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shape at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes, and wherein the third longitudinal axis is axially aligned with the first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture.

21. (New) The bone plate of claim 7 wherein the second longitudinal axis of the second complex aperture is angled about 60 degrees with respect to the first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture.

22. (New) The bone plate of claim 7 wherein a third complex aperture is located in the head portion, the third complex aperture comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, and wherein the two overlapping holes of the third complex aperture extend along a third longitudinal axis and comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shape at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper

portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes, and wherein the third longitudinal axis is axially aligned with the first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture.

23. (New) A bone plate, which comprises:

- a) a head portion;
- b) an elongated lower portion extending from the head portion along a longitudinal axis, wherein the bone plate comprising the head portion and the elongated lower portion comprises a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side;
- c) a first complex aperture extending along the head portion and a second complex aperture extending along the elongated lower portion, each of the first and second complex apertures comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of both the first and second complex apertures comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shaped opening at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a

corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes;

- d) a third complex aperture located in the head portion, the third complex aperture comprised of two overlapping holes having an offset of a given distance between centers thereof, wherein the two overlapping holes of the third complex aperture comprise a compression ramp extending from an oval shape at the top side of the plate downwardly and inwardly part way through the plate thickness to a threaded lower portion having an hourglass shape extending from where the upper portion ends at the hourglass shape to the bottom side of the bone plate with threaded surfaces of the overlapping holes meeting each other at an overlap forming the hourglass shape, the lower portion being adapted to lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw in either one or the other of the overlapping holes; and
- e) wherein a first longitudinal axis of the first complex aperture is axially aligned with a second longitudinal axis of the second complex aperture and wherein a third longitudinal axis of the third complex aperture is angled with respect to the axially aligned first and second longitudinal axes of the respective first and second complex apertures.

24. (New) The bone plate of claim 23 wherein the third longitudinal axis of the third complex aperture is angled about 60 degrees from the axially aligned first and second longitudinal axes of the first and second complex apertures.

25. (New) The bone plate of claim 23 wherein a fourth aperture is located in the head portion with the axially aligned longitudinal axes of the first and second complex apertures and the third longitudinal axis of the third complex aperture intersecting at a centerpoint of the fourth aperture

26. (New) The bone plate of claim 25 wherein the fourth aperture has a rounded shape.

27. (New) The bone plate of claim 25 wherein the fourth aperture is an elongated slot.